

Urban District Council of Exmouth



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1972

TOWN HALL,
EXMOUTH.

Newcastle
DistrictI N D E X.

July 1973.

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Routine vaccination of babies against smallpox has been discontinued.

In concluding this introduction to my Report, I should like to thank the members of the Council and the Staff for their interest and co-operation given to me during the year under review.

I have the honour to be
Your Obedient Servt

A. R. Ridgwell

Medical Officer of Health

EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,
Exmouth.

June 1973.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1972. Paragraphs 12 to 18 have been kindly provided by Mr. D.R. Redgwell the Senior Public Health Inspector.

From a study of the vital statistics it will be seen that there were 313 live births registered, giving a standardised live birth rate of 13.8 a little below the average for England and Wales. Of these 313 live births, 27 were illegitimate.

During the year, 488 deaths were registered representing a standardised death rate of 10.3 which is below that for the Country as a whole (12.1). The average age at death was 73.5 for males and 74.2 for females. As in previous years the diseases causing most deaths were heart disease, cancer and cerebro-vascular disease.

I am pleased to report that the Infant Mortality rate of 13 was again much lower than the rate for England and Wales (18).

The number of deaths from cancer, whilst relatively high, was a little lower than in 1971 and deaths from Cancer of the Lung fell from 27 in 1971 to 15 in 1972.

It is gratifying to note the low incidence of infectious diseases, especially measles. It is now 5 years since the usual biennial high incidence occurred (1968 - 328 cases). This extremely unpleasant and occasionally dangerous disease is gradually being eliminated and when 100% of all babies are vaccinated the disease will virtually disappear.

At the present time protective inoculations are given routinely against the following diseases :-

Diphtheria at 1 year and 5 years.
Whooping Cough at 1 year.
Tetanus at 1 year, 5 years and 14 years.
Measles at 1 year.
Poliomyelitis at 1 year, 5 years and 14 years.
German Measles (girls only) at 11 years.
Tuberculosis (B.C.G.) at 13 years.

Routine vaccination of babies against Smallpox has been discontinued.

In concluding this introduction to my report, I should like to thank all members of the Council and the Staff for their interest and co-operation given to me during the year under review.

I have the Honour to be
Your Obedient Servant

L. G. ANDERSON

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres. 1,000

Resident Population mid-year 1927 20,000

Number of inhabited dwellings (1926 Census 1927) 13,713

S T A F F.

Estimated Value (May 1927) 10,000,000

Estimated product of a gross ton 230,000

VITAL STATISTICS.(a) Births.MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Live births 12,000

L. G. Anderson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Stillbirths 100

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Live birth rate per 1,000 total lives 12.0

Standardized live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 11.8

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 11.8

Population of B. J. Stowell, M.A.P.H.I. 11,000

CLERK TO HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Mrs. J.M. Brown.

Live births 12,000

Stillbirths 100

Total 12,100

Still birth rate per 1,000 total lives and still births 11.0

Still birth rate per 1,000 total lives and still births - England and Wales 11.0

(b) Deaths.

Males Females Total

2,000 1,000 3,000

Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 16.7

Standardized death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 16.7

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STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres.	5,295
Resident Population mid-year 1972	26,120
Number of inhabited dwellings (31st March 1972)	9,710
Rateable Value (31st March 1972)	£1,237,829
Estimated product of a penny rate	£12,573

VITAL STATISTICS.(a) Live Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	140	146	286
Illegitimate	14	13	27
Total	154	159	313

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	12.0
Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population.	13.8
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population of England and Wales	14.8

(b) Still Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	2	2	4

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	13.0
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births England and Wales	12.0

(c) Deaths.

Males	females	total
209	279	488

Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	18.7
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	10.3
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population, England and Wales	12.1

(d) Infant Mortality (deaths of infants under one year).

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	2	3	5

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 13

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births
England and Wales 17

LIVE BIRTH RATE. (rate per 1,000 estimated resident population).

During 1972 a total of 313 babies were born, 154 males and 159 females. This total was 4 less than the previous year.

The standardised rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was 13.8 which is lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, 14.8.

The live birth rate during the last ten years was as follows:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Exmouth	14.9	16.3	14.3	15.2	14.9	12.3	12.8	13.2	12.4	12.0
Standardised	19.1	20.8	18.3	19.5	21.6	17.8	18.6	19.3	18.0	13.8
England & Wales	18.2	18.4	18.0	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.3	16.0	16.0	14.8

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE (rate per 1,000 live births).

Of the 313 children born in 1972, 27 were illegitimate. The rate per 1,000 live births was 86.2 compared with 82.0 illegitimate births in 1971 representing an illegitimate birth rate of 82.0. The illegitimate birth rate during the last ten years is as follows:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Exmouth	75.6	109.1	69.0	100.0	77.5	87.5	79.2	100.4	82.0	86.2

STILL BIRTHS (rate per 1,000 live and still births).

There were 4 still births in 1972, 1 more than the previous year. The still birth rate of 13.0 was higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, 12.0. The following table shows the still birth rate for the last ten years:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Exmouth	6.6	11.8	6.6	9.3	9.0	17.0	16.0	16.0	9.0	13.0
England & Wales	17.3	16.3	15.7	15.3	14.8	14.0	13.0	13.0	12.0	12.0

DEATHS.

During 1972, 488 persons normally resident in the Urban District died, 209 males and 279 females. This represents a corrected death rate of 18.7, but when allowances for age and sex distribution have been made, represents a standardised death rate of 10.3, which is lower than the rate for England & Wales, 12.1.

The following table shows the corrected and standardised death rates for Exmouth for the last ten years:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Corrected	21.3	19.1	19.3	21.6	16.9	17.5	18.6	20.6	16.8	18.7
Standardised	13.5	11.8	11.0	12.1	8.5	8.7	8.7	9.9	8.1	10.3
England & Wales	12.5	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9	11.7	11.6	12.1

(a) Age at death.

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Males	73.1	72.2	71.3	71.0	71.9	70.7	71.4	71.2	72.9	73.5
Females	76.1	75.8	75.1	73.3	75.2	76.5	78.2	76.9	77.9	74.2
Both Sexes	74.8	74.2	73.2	72.1	73.8	74.1	75.4	75.7	75.7	73.9
England & Wales	68.0	68.8	68.9	69.0	69.1	69.1	69.1	69.1	69.2	-
	73.9	74.5	74.7	75.0	75.1	75.1	75.1	75.1	75.2	-

(b) Expectation of Life. (England and Wales)

The future average lifetime of a male child aged one year in 1971 was 69.2 years and for a female child the life expectancy was 75.2 years.

(c) Causes of Death.

As in previous years, the most common cause of death was heart disease, 167 cases; cerebrovascular diseases were responsible for 74 deaths, and cancer was the cause of 103 deaths.

Causes of Deaths.

The following table shows the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General).

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	3	3
<u>Cancer.</u>			
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity	2	-	2
-do- Oesophagus	3	1	4
-do- Stomach	4	4	8
-do- Intestine	8	10	18
-do- Lung, Bronchus	13	2	15
-do- Breast	1	11	12
-do- Uterus	2	2	2
-do- Prostate	6	-	6
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	16	18	34
Diabetes Mellitus	3	1	4
Avitaminoses etc.	-	1	1
Mental Disorders	1	2	3
Other Diseases of Nervous System	4	5	9
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	4	4	8
Hypertensive Disease	2	2	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	67	52	119
Other Forms of Heart Disease	10	26	36
Cerebrovascular Disease	18	56	74
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	5	21	26
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	6	29	35
Bronchitis and Emphysema	15	4	19
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	-	2
Appendicitis	1	-	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	2	2
Chirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	5	6
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	-	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito Urinary System	-	3	3
Congenital Anomalies	1	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	-	2	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	2	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	2	5
Other Accidents	1	2	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	3	2	5
All other external cases	-	1	1
Total	209	279	488

Abstract of Death Returns 1971.(a) Accidents.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause</u>
Female	74	Multiple Injuries
Female	54	Exposure
Female	54	Multiple Injuries
Male	20	Multiple Injuries
Male	59	Brain Damage.

(b) Misadventure.

Female	83	Fracture of left hip.
Male	72	Fell from roof.

(c) Suicide.

Female	65	Drowning.
Male	60	Gunshot wound to head.
Male	87	Drowning.
Male	67	Carbon Monoxide Poisoning.

(d) Infant Deaths.

Female	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours	Accident at birth.
Female	1 day	Prematurity.
Male	1 day	Congenital defects.

The following table shows the incidence of death in various age groups. (From returns supplied by the Local Registrar of Births and Deaths.)

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage
Under 1 year	1	3	4	0.8
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	1	1	0.2
15 - 24 years	2	-	2	0.4
25 - 34 years	2	-	2	0.4
35 - 44 years	-	1	1	0.2
45 - 54 years	10	4	14	2.8
55 - 64 years	36	20	56	11.6
65 - 74 years	74	57	131	26.8
75 and over	84	193	277	56.8
Total	209	279	488	

INFANT MORTALITY.

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of infants under the age of one year per 1,000 live births registered. During 1972, 1 male and 2 female infants died. This represents an infant mortality rate of 13, which is lower than for England and Wales 18.

The following table gives the infant mortality rate for the last ten years:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
No. of deaths under 1 year	4	4	7	4	2	3	6	3	4	3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	13.1	11.8	23.1	12.1	6.0	10.0	20.0	9.0	13.0	13.0

The causes of death of the three infants were as follows:-

Female	17½ hours	Accident at Birth
Female	1 day	Prematurity
Male	1 day	Congenital defects.

CANCER.

Deaths from cancer decreased during the year 1972 to 101.

(a) The parts of the body affected are given in the following table :-

Site	Males	Females	Total
Buccal Cavity	2	-	2
Stomach	4	4	8
Intestine	8	10	18
Oesophagus	3	1	4
Lung, Bronchus	13	2	15
Breast	1	11	12
Uterus	-	2	2
Prostate	6	-	6
All other sites	16	18	34
Total	53	48	101

(b) The following table shows the incidence of lung cancer compared with other forms of cancer for the last ten years :-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Lung cancer	9	13	14	16	12	16	19	14	27	15
Other sites	50	62	62	65	58	59	66	70	81	86

(c) The incidence of deaths from cancer during the last ten years are as follows:-

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Numbers of Cases	59	75	76	81	70	75	85	84	108	101
Percentage total no. of deaths	15.9	19.1	18.7	17.4	18.4	18.4	19.3	15.7	22.7	20.7
Rate per 1,000 resident population	2.85	3.60	3.60	3.73	3.11	3.23	3.60	3.50	4.20	3.80

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, 45 cases of notifiable infectious diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) were reported, which is 27 less than last year.

(a) Measles - There were 38 cases of measles in 1972. All were of a mild nature. The seasonal incidence of measles in Exmouth was as follows:-

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
-	-	-	3	2	13	13	7	-	-	-	-
	-			18		20			-		

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of the various notifiable diseases during 1972 is tabulated below :-

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases admitted to hospital.
Scarlet Fever	2	-
Meningitis	2	-
Infective Jaundice	3	-
Measles	38	-

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases which have occurred during the last ten years, excluding Tuberculosis.

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Measles	561	32	439	39	84	328	13	27	59	4538
Whooping Cough	5	6	-	3	4	18	-	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	4	1	14	-	10	6	-	1	2
Peurperal Pyrexia	2	-	3	-	-	-	*	*	*	*
Dysentery	43	2	-	24	2	8	59	--	2	-
Pneumonia	9	4	8	7	2	4	*	*	*	*
Erysipelas	1	4	5	-	1	-	*	*	*	*
Typhoid Fever	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	4	3
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	2
* These diseases are no longer notifiable.										

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases grouped according to age :-

	Under 1 yr.	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	15+	15+	25+	35+	45+	55+	65+	Total
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	4	5	1	4	8	14	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	38

TUBERCULOSIS.

The incidence of new cases of tuberculosis brought to the notice of the Medical Officer during the period 1963 - 1972 is as follows

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Pulmonary m	1	11	1	3	-	-	-	2	-	-
Pulmonary f	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	2
Non-Pulmonary m	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Non-Pulmonary f	1	-	-	1	3	3	1	-	-	-
Total	2	12	1	5	4	3	1	3	1	3

Table showing the incidence of all forms of tuberculosis -
Rates per 1,000 estimated resident population.

Year	Cases Notified (per 1,000 resident population)	Death Rate
1953	0.93	0.06
1954	0.63	0.06
1955	0.97	0.11
1956	0.78	-
1957	0.44	0.11
1958	-	-
1959	0.49	0.05
1960	0.37	0.05
1961	0.41	-
1962	0.20	-
1963	0.10	0.05
1964	0.09	-
1965	0.05	0.05
1966	0.23	0.04
1967	0.18	-
1968	0.13	-
1969	0.12	-
1970	0.12	-
1971	0.04	-
1972	0.11	0.06

NATIONAL HEALTH FACILITIES.

The Health Services provided under Parts II and III of the National Health Service Act applicable to your district are briefly set out below:-

PART II.

Hospital Facilities.

General - The Urban District is well served by the Exmouth Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth, Tel. 4381 where there is accommodation for :-

Males	13 beds	General and	12 beds
Females	15 beds	Private	
Children	5 beds		

In addition to the Exmouth Hospital, use is made of :-

- (a) The Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East, Exeter.
Telephone - 59261 - 302 beds
- (b) The Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Heavitree Road, Exeter
Telephone 77991 - 240 beds
- (c) Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter.
Telephone - 76481 - 139 beds
- (d) Princess Elizabeth Hospital, Wonford Road, Exeter
Telephone - 54217 - 111 beds
- (e) West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter.
Telephone 73183 - 62 beds
- (f) Budleigh Salterton Cottage Hospital, Budleigh Salterton.
Telephone - 2020 - 21 beds

The plastic surgery clinic for Devon is held at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital on the second Thursday morning of every month. Mr. Pigott, Mr. Routledge and Mr. Bodenham of the South West Regional Hospital Board attend.

Maternity.

- (a) Exeter City Hospital, Heavitree Road, Exeter.
Special Care Baby Unit - 49 beds
- 31 cots
- (b) Mowbray Maternity Hospital, Heavitree, Exeter - 24 beds
20 cots

Isolation.

Cases of Infectious Diseases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital Whipton, Exeter, Telephone 67158, as in previous years, when necessary.

Smallpox.

Cases of smallpox or suspected smallpox maybe admitted to the Smallpox Isolation Hospital at Liskeard, Cornwall. Consultants who may be called upon to assist in the diagnosis of smallpox are:-

East Devon - Dr. E.J.G. Wallace,
Health Centre, Westham Road,
Weymouth, Dorset.

Cornwall & Devon to River Exe.
Dr. W.H. St. John Brooke,
West Cornwall Hospital,
Penzance, Cornwall.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological and serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Church Lane, Exeter, Telephone No 77833, under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

Veneral Disease.

Free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital	Monday 7 - 8 p.m. Friday 2 - 3 p.m.	Monday 6 - 7 p.m. Friday 3 - 4 p.m.

Ambulance Facilities.

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station, Bastin Hall, Elm Grove, Exmouth. All are equipped with radio telephone communication systems.

In the district served, the ambulances have carried 4,656 patients, and have attended 48 street accidents. The total mileage covered during the year was 61,550.

Part III

Care of Mothers and Children.

There are four Health Visitors assigned to this District. Help is given at the various centres by lady volunteers, whose assistance is greatly appreciated.

Two Medical Officers attend the Infant Welfare Clinics, Dr. J. Allott and your own Medical Officer of Health. The centres are the Devon County Council Health Centre at Claremont Grove on Tuesday, from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m. and the Devon County Council Clinic, Withycombe Village Road on Wednesday from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m. Infant Welfare Clinics are also held at the Church Hall, Littleham, every second and fourth Monday of each month from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m.

Exmouth Clinics.

Number of Sessions Held.	Total attendances by infants	Total attendances by children 1 - 5
96	2480 (new cases 282)	822 (new cases 17)

Littleham Clinic.

Number of Sessions Held.	Total attendances by infants	Total attendances by children 1-- 5
23	146 (new cases 21)	94 (new cases - nil)

Welfare foods are supplied at the Exmouth Infant Welfare Centres on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons of each week and at the Church Hall, Littleham every Monday afternoon; also at the W.R.V.S. Headquarters, 40a Exeter Road Exmouth, on Monday and Friday mornings (inclusive) 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m.

Maternity.

The area is served by seven District Nurses, one of whom is part-time, and two Midwives. They are based at the Health Centre at Claremont Grove. Each is in possession of a motor car and all are fully trained in analgesics and the use of resuscitation apparatus.

Care of Premature Infants.

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to the nearest Maternity Unit, at the Exeter City Hospital, where there are 31 cots for premature babies.

Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children.

A well equipped surgery is provided at the Devon County Council Clinic at Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, at which dental treatment can be given to mothers and young children every Friday and by appointment.

The following paragraphs have kindly been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector:-

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

The scope of this includes visits and inspections in relation to the work described under all the various sections which follow, but in particular, work under the provisions of the Public Health Acts, including nuisances, Housing Acts, and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

During the year, 134 complaints were received; this was a slight decrease on the previous year. The various matters were investigated and the necessary action was taken in those cases with which the Council had power to act.

In the course of this work, 29 nuisances were abated. Drains at 7 premises were cleared.

One Statutory Notice was served under Section 17 of the Public Health Act 1961 and on default of the owner, the choked drain was cleared by Council workmen.

It was necessary to serve one Statutory Notice under the nuisance provisions of the Public Health Act 1936. As a result of this the necessary work to remedy the dampness was carried out by the owner of the property.

In 2 cases, upon request, an accumulation of rubbish was removed from premises by the occupiers.

In the year under review, 8 complaints of alleged noise nuisance were received. As a result of investigating these cases, there was sufficient evidence to substantiate a statutory nuisance in five cases. All of these have been remedied.

Housing.

During the year, one Closing Order was revoked upon completion of the necessary works to make the ground floor flat fit. Two houses, the subject of Demolition Orders were demolished by the owner.

As a result of informal action by the Department, a further 17 houses were repaired to a satisfactory standard. The repairs included, roofs, walls and remedying general dampness.

Severe dampness in the walls of a flat was caused by a continually running overflow pipe from a cistern in the flat above. This was due to the neglect of maintenance by the managing agent of the property.

Roof repairs were carried out at a House in Multiple Occupation after service of a Statutory Notice.

In addition 4 lots of repairs were carried out following applications for the issue of Qualification Certificates.

Discretionary and Standard Grants.

The table gives the figures for the last five years, and reveals a continuing increase in the amount of work being carried out with Discretionary Improvement Grants. Total grant paid shows a 48% increase over that for 1971.

Improvement Grant Table.

Year	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
<u>Discretionary Grants.</u>					
(i) Received	7	9	14	43	45
(ii) Approved	5	10	14	33	35
(iii) Completed	2	6	15	18	27
(iv) Grant Paid	£800	£1804	£6882	£10182	£17198
<u>Standard Grants.</u>					
(i) Received	26	19	20	23	19
(ii) Approved	23	19	18	23	20
(iii) Completed	20	14	19	19	14
(iv) Grant Paid	£2704	£1836	£2128	£2427	£1305
Total Grant Paid	£3504	£3640	£9010	£12609	£18503

Notes on the 1972 figures.(a) Discretionary Grants.

- 17 of the 35 applications approved related to dwellings occupied by the owner. The other 18 were either tenanted premises or were vacant.
- Included in the 27 completions were 8 dwellings provided by the conversion of houses or other buildings.
- The average grant paid was £637.

(b) Standard Grants.

- 9 of the 20 applications approved were in respect of owner occupied dwellings. The other 11 related to dwellings either tenanted, or unoccupied.
- One bathroom extension was built.
- The Standard Amenities provided were:-

6 baths
7 wash hand basins
13 hot water supplies (to bath, wash hand basin and sink)
6 inside water closets.

- The average grant paid was £93.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

The Specialist Firm employed by the Council carried out the following disinfection treatments:-

3 houses for fleas
 2 houses for cockroaches
 18 wasps nests destroyed - 7 of which were in Council properties.

CAMPING AND CARAVANING.

There are three sites within the Urban District, as follows:-

(a) Sandy Bay Holiday Park.

Fields at Westdown Farm, Littleham, bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers:-

189, 190, 197, 198, 200, 203, 512, 514, 515, 516, 519, 520, 521, 524, 526, 531, 532, 534, 535 and 536.

Area - 159.7 acres. Licensed for 2,650 moveable dwellings which represents a density of 17 caravans to the acre.

(b) Higher Orcombe.

Fields at Higher Orcombe bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers:-

500, 502, 504, 506 and 507.

Area = 24.7 acres. Licensed for 82 trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council, which represents a density of 3 caravans to the acre.

(c) Orcombe Heights.

Fields at Orcombe Heights bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers :-

499 and 503.

Area = 22.3 acres. Licensed for 50 tents or trailer caravans of type approved by the Council, which represents a density of 2 moveable dwellings to the acre.

(d) Camping Census.

At the request of the Devon County Council Planning Authority the Annual Camping Census was taken during the last week in July.

(e) Camping at Unlicensed Sites.

(i) Prattshayes Farm.

This site is still the only camping site for tents in the district and as it is open only for the peak holiday weeks, it does not come within the licensing provisions of the Public Health Act 1936. Consequently, by agreement with the Planning Authority, the number of tents is restricted to 32, and it is evident that many campers have to pass on elsewhere in view of the lack of sites for tents. Conditions at this site were satisfactory.

(ii) Scattered Sites.

18.

This year there was one organised tented camp, which took place during August in one field at Westdown Lane.

During the year 23 visits were made to the permanent holiday sites, whilst 10 visits were made in connection with temporary camping.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Registered Premises.

The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 are :-

The preparation or manufacture of preserved food	35
The manufacture of ice-cream	5
The sale of ice-cream	153
Total number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959	23

(b) Unsound Food.

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption consisted of:-

<u>Canned Meats.</u>	lbs. ozs.	cwts. qtrs.	lbs. ozs.
Cooked Ham (blown)	12. 8.		
Corned Beef (decomposition)	24. 0.		
	36. 8.	1.	8. 8.

Other Foods.

Cod Fillets (decomposition)	140. 0.
Frozen chicken livers (-do-)	290. 0.
Cheese (mouldy)	10. 8.
	440. 8. 3. 20. 8.

Tins of Food (Assorted).

12 tins, punctured, blown or leaking.	40. 9.
	1. 12. 9.
<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>4. 2. 13. 9.</u>

All condemned Food is disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

(c) Food Retailers.

During the course of the year routine visits were made to butchers shops, fish shops, fried fish shops, bakers shops, greengrocers and grocers shops.

As in the past, advice on food hygiene has continued to be given to the proprietors of food businesses. Also stock rotation has been emphasised.

At a farm shop mains water supply, a sink, wash hand basin, hot and cold water, and a water closet were provided.

(d) Bakehouses.

The three bakehouses in the district are operated by mechanical power, and therefore, are classed as factories, since more than one person is employed in them. Repairs and decorations were carried out at one of the bakehouses.

(e) Catering Establishments.

From inspections it was evident that a good standard of hygiene was continued in these premises. At one of these premises a supply of hot water was provided to the customers wash hand basins, and an intervening ventilated space provided. In another instance the redecoration of the storerooms and kitchen was carried out.

(f) Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes.

Owing to pressure of other work only a proportion of these premises were inspected. Although there are always difficulties with the employment of seasonal staff, it has been found that, through the co-operation of all concerned, the general standard of hygiene in these premises has remained good.

(g) Public Houses.

The general standard of these premises has continued to be satisfactory.

(h) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

The number and type of food premises to which these Regulations apply are given in the table overleaf, which also indicates certain information requested by the Department of Health and Social Security.

It will be noted that these Regulations apply to all the above type of food premises, which are also mentioned in the following table. The requirements of the Regulations were checked with the conditions existing at the premises during routine visits. The items dealt with have been included in their respective headings above.

(i) Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966.

The regulations were enforced by making "spot checks" on vehicles as and when found in the district.

(j) Milk Supply.

The Devon County Council Sampling Officer has taken samples of raw milk and no reports of brucella abortus were received this year.

(k) Shellfish.

Visits were made at regular intervals to the shellfish factory at the Docks, occupied by Messrs. Exe Shellfish Ltd. During the year 4 samples of their shellfish were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. All were found to be satisfactory.

(l) Poultry Inspection.

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

	(i) number of premises	(ii) number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 - (wash hand basin)	(iii) No. of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies - facilities for washing food & equipment	(iv) No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19.
Butchers	14	14	14	14
Dairies & Milk Distributors	35	35	35	35
Fish Shops	4	4	4	4
Fried Fish Shops	8	8	8	8
Bakers Shops	9	9	-	-
Bakehouses	3	3	3	3
Grocers	37	37	37	37
Supermarkets	5	5	5	5
Restaurants & Cafes	28	28	28	28
Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes.	77	77	77	77
School Kitchens & Staff Canteens	14	14	14	14
Public Houses.	23	23	23	23
Greengrocers.	16	16	16	16
Other Food Premises.	17	17	3	3
 Total	290	290	267	267

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.Rodent Control.(a) General.

This year there was a slight increase in the number of complaints received compared with the preceding year. Instead of the previous 98 complaints there were 111 complaints received this year. Inspections revealed that 111 properties were infested. The work of rodent control has continued to be carried out by a specialist firm in a satisfactory manner.

(b) Sewers.

In June the Annual Test Baiting of 10% of the sewer manholes was carried out. Unfortunately this indicated slight infestations in certain lengths of the sewers. In accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's requirements, these lengths, together with adjoining manholes were subjected to a maintenance treatment later in the year, when the sewer system was found to be free of infestation.

(c) Council Property.

The following properties of the Council were treated in the course of the year:-

Pound Lane, Refuse Tip.

Imperial Road Car Park.

Withycombe Brook (Country House Inn to Bradham Lane).

FACTORIES ACT 1961.

(a) Inspections for purposes or provisions as to health :

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	3	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	84	31	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises.)	-	-	-	-
Total	87	34	-	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	3	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for the sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, not including offences relating to 'outwork'	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	3	-	2	-

(c) Homework (Sections 133 and 134)

Where work is given out from a Factory and done in a private dwelling house, it is termed "homework" and the person who does the work is an "outworker". This control applies to certain classes of work as specified by Regulations made by the Secretary of State. The occupier of the factory concerned with the "outworkers" is required to keep a list of all outworkers and send a copy of the list to the local authority during the months of February and August each year.

Part VIII of the Act - 'Outwork' Secs. (133 and 134)

N I L

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

Throughout the year the inspection of premises was carried out. Contraventions found were rectified after notification of the fact as indicated in the table below :

<u>Works necessary.</u>	<u>Number.</u>
Cleanliness	4
Lighting	6
Drying of Clothes.	2
Provision of hot water supply	1
Clothing accommodation	2
Floors, stairs and passage repaired	5
First Aid materials	5
Abstract of the Act	8
Thermometer	4
Seating Accommodation	4
Guarding of Machinery	1
Heating	1

The number of Premises on the Register.

<u>Class of Premises.</u> (1)	<u>Number of premises newly registered during the year.</u> (2)	<u>Total Number of registered premises at the end of year</u> (3)
Offices	1	79
Retail shops	3	176
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	-	36
Fuel storage Depots	-	-
Totals.	4	293

The requirements under the Act, for new employers to notify the Council they intend to employ persons in office or shop premises is most frequently not complied with. Registration has to be obtained after the business has begun operation.

Notification was received of two accidents occurring during the year, but in neither case was the accident due to a contravention of the Act.

The following pages have kindly been supplied by the Housing and Welfare Officer.

Housing Need.

Statistics have been kept since 1958 as to the demand for Council housing accommodation in Exmouth and each year the total figure has gone up in spite of new building and the re-letting of existing properties.

In 1958 the total waiting list was 316, of which 150 were considered to be in need of re-housing. The total as at December 1972 was 627, of which 240 were considered to be in need. It will be noted that the number in need has not appreciably increased over the years, but this is primarily because the definition of need was substantially altered in 1971 when a points letting scheme was introduced and it now reads as follows:

Need - where applicants are sharing or lacking any of the following bedrooms, living rooms, kitchen, bathroom or W.C.

Urgent Need - where there is a multiplicity of the above needs plus medical or social difficulties

Others - Safeguarding insecure tenancies, furnished lettings, high rents or occupying accommodation if unsatisfactory in some respect.

Some significant factors at present affecting the situation are:-

- (a) The last 12 months have seen a radical change in the housing situation. The price of houses is now beyond the means of almost all young couples in this area.
- (b) For the same reason there are fewer Council tenants leaving to purchase their own properties and this in the past has always been a source of an appreciable number of vacant houses.
- (c) The almost complete absence of private rented accommodation at rents which any average family could afford and in addition where such accommodation is available there are often many restrictions for example - no children are allowed.

This is a most distressing situation and will undoubtedly have the effect of increasing the number of "homeless families", in addition the need of those awaiting re-housing will become more apparent and, of course, there will undoubtedly be a substantial rise in the number of applicants on the housing list. To illustrate this latter point, the number of new applications per year received by the Exmouth Housing Department is in the region of 250, but in the first four months of 1973 they have been coming in at the annual rate of 550, per annum.

The outlook, no matter how optimistically one examines it, is bleak. It has become increasingly difficult in the last 18 months to get Ministry approval for building owing to problems of meeting the Government yardstick and whilst approval is forthcoming, it is in most instances only after long negotiations, also the acquisition of land in the future is likely to be difficult apart from the cost.

The above is only one aspect of the problem. The building trade, because of its size and the nature of its structure, can only produce so many houses a year, but even here, recent production has been below maximum. Set against this is the demolition of existing unfit dwellings, which is likely to continue in the foreseeable future, as well as houses required for road widenings and other development.

Even if the above were the only problems, it might be possible to see an answer to the overall housing shortage, but the most telling problem of all is the massive increase in population which stands at 54,000,000 at present and is likely to increase by 20% in the next 25 years.

Another contributory factor to the housing shortage is the increasing number of void properties, that is, those properties which are empty either waiting re-sale, improvement or repair, at present about 5% of the total housing stock, which could increase to 7½% or 10% within the next 25 years. This alone could amount to some 800,000 properties at present and could be nearer 2,000,000 by the year 2000. The final significant factor is the number of second or even third homes which more and more people are acquiring and which stand vacant most of the year calculated at present at 200,000.

Major solutions rest with the Government, but the new Local Authorities should be able to make a significant contribution to containing the problem.

ANALYSIS OF THE HOUSING LIST

Note: The first four columns give details of families awaiting re-housing who appear to have a real need. The final column gives the overall total of all applicants.

As at	<u>ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED</u>			TOTAL	Grand total of all applicants
	3-bedroomed	2-bedroomed	1-bedroomed		
December 1972	114	38	86	238	627
December 1971	112	27	60	199	576
December 1970	176	39	102	317	527
December 1969	164	34	120	318	503
December 1968	125	26	94	245	431
October 1967	123	38	104	265	450
December 1966	101	45	86	232	443
December 1965	132	35	95	262	466
December 1964	126	33	87	246	455
December 1963	129	34	88	251	477
December 1962	101	28	77	206	411
March 1962	81	39	82	202	384
March 1961	114	43	102	259	406
March 1960	77	33	62	172	342
December 1958	73	32	52	157	316

ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED

As at	3-bedroomed	2-bedroomed	1-bedroomed	TOTAL
December 1972	59	11	22	92*
December 1971	34	6	27	67*
December 1970	55	19	24	98*
December 1969	53	10	32	95*
December 1968	75	23	20	118*
October 1967	69	14	25	108*
December 1966	36	6	55	97*
December 1965	29	3	14	46
December 1964	32	3	11	46
December 1963	25	7	8	40
December 1962	48	3	49	100*
March 1962	50	5	30	85*
March 1961	28	2	31	61*
March 1960	24	6	7	37*
December 1958	41	8	8	57
* including new building				28 3-beds 14 1-beds

NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

December 1972	272	Number considered to be in need of rehousing	87
1971	252	"	102
1970	235	"	115
1969	248	"	135
1968	177	"	102
1967	163	"	107
1965	190	"	152
1964	168	"	107
1963	200	"	133
1962	196	"	127
1961	190	"	116
1960	197	"	146
1959	210	"	115
1958	196	"	122

